

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SNM-02 SS-15 SCS-03 SCA-01 L-03

H-01 DEAE-00 PRS-01 NSC-05 /055 W

-----241208 026579 /10

R 241115Z FEB 77

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5432

INFO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: SNAR, UNCND, UNFDAC, BL

SUBJ: CONVERSATION WITH COL APARICIO

REF: A. LA PAZ 882, B. GENEVA 1241

1. US CND REP FALCO MET WITH HEAD OF BOLIVIAN NATIONAL DIRECTOR-  
ATE FOR THE CONTROL OF DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES, COL OVIDIO APARICIO,  
FE B 23, FOR A TOUR D'HORIZON OF BOLIVIAN NARCOTICS PROBLEMS  
WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE QUESTIONS OF AMCIT PRISONERS AND  
US NARCOTICS CONTROL ASSISTANCE.

2. APARICIO DESCRIBED BOLIVIAN NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL PROGRAM  
WHICH CONSISTS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT; CROP SUBSTITUTION (INCLUDING  
INITIAL INVENTORY OF COCA PRODUCERS); PREVENTIVE EDUCATION; AND  
TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION. GOB HAS SOUGHT BILATERAL US ASSIS-  
TANCE FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CROP SUBSTITUTION PROGRAMS ON THE  
ASSUMPTION THAT THE UN FUND FOR DRUG ABUSE CONTROL (UNFDAC) WOULD  
SUPPORT THE TREATMENT/REHABILITATION AND PREVENTION PROGRAMS, PRE-  
SUMED BY APARICIO TO BE THE TWO LESS EXPENSIVE SECTORS.  
APARICIO'S FORTHCOMING VISIT TO WASHINGTON (REF B) IS PRIMARILY  
TO DISCUSS US ASSISTANCE FOR EOB INVENTORY OF COCA PRODUCERS.

3. APARICIO SAID THAT BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FOR GENEVA FEB 4,

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HE HAD GIVEN GOB MINISTER OF INTERIOR INDIVIDUAL ANALYSES OF THE  
CASES OF AMCIT PRISONERS HELD IN BOLIVIA ON DRUG CHARGES. THE  
REVISED BOLIVIAN NARCOTICS LAW DOES NOT DISTINGUISH BETWEEN DRUG  
POSSESSION AND TRAFFICKING, PROVIDING SENTENCES OF IMPRISONMENT  
UP TO 25 YEARS. APARICIO THOUGHT THAT JUDGES MIGHT USE THEIR  
DISCRETION TO DISMISS SOME AMCITS FOUND IN POSSESSION FOR SMALL  
AMOUNTS OF COCAINE SINCE THEY HAVE ALREADY SERVED SUBSTANTIAL TIME

PENDING DISPOSITION OF CASES. HE STATED THAT HIS OFFICE WOULD NOT INSIST ON PROSECUTION FOR TRAFFICKING OF CASES INVOLVING SMALL AMOUNTS OF DRUGS. HOWEVER, HE WARNED THAT MANY JUDGES ARE WARY OF MALFEASANCE CHARGES (REF A) AND WOULD BE UNLIKELY TO RELEASE ANY AMCITS BEFORE HE RETURNED TO LA PAZ AND PERSONALLY DISCUSSED INDIVIDUAL CASES WITH THEM. APARICIO IS NOT RETURNING TO LA PAZ UNTIL AFTER HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON.

4. SUBSEQUENT TO MEETING WITH APARICIO, USREP LEARNED THAT UNFDAC HAS AGREED TO UNDERTAKE A ONE-YEAR, \$100,000 PROGRAM IN VOLIVIA. UNFDAC ASSISTANCE WILL PAY THE SALARY OF A NATIONAL DRUG ADVISER, PROVIDE REHABILITATION EQUIPMENT FOR DETENTION CENTERS, AND PROVIDE CONSULTANT SERVICES IN THE FIELDS OF REHABILITATION AND COMMUNICATIONS.

5. LA PAZ PLEASE SEND TWO COPIES OF REVISED BOLIVIAN NARCOTICS LAW IN ENGLISH TRANSLATION TO DEPT (S/NM). CATTO

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Reference:** 77 LA PAZ 882, 77 GENEVA 1241  
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**Review Markings:**  
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